

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 5901

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TAGS: PEPR XF CH RO PDIP
SUBJECT: AUGUST 22 MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI

REFS: (A) STATE 212550, (B) STATE 205955, (C) STATE 212031

1. FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI RECEIVED ME PROMPTLY AT 1030
LOCAL AUGUST 22 TO HEAR REFTEL A MESSAGE ON MIDDLE EAST AND
PRC. ANDREI'S ASSISTANT, MIRCEA MITRAN, TRANSLATED AND
TEXTUALLY NOTED PRESENTATION WHICH ADHERED TO REFTEL A AND
MADE ESSENTIAL POINTS IN REFTEL B. I OPENED MEETING BY
PRESENTING TO ANDREI SECRETARY'S LETTER OF GREETING ON
ROMANIA'S NATIONAL DAY, REFTEL C.

2. ANDREI EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR USG'S MESSAGE
ON MIDDLE EAST AND PRC, WHICH HE SAID HE WOULD CONVEY TO
HIS PRESIDENT.

3. NOTING THAT ADREI OFFERED ME TEA RATHER THAN THE
TRADITIONAL COFFEE, I ASKED WHETHER IT WAS CHINESE OR
RUSSIAN. MITRAN SAID IT WAS CHINESE JASMINE TEA MIXED
WITH ROMANIAN HERBS. THEN ADREI ASKED FOR MY ESTIMATE
OF HUA KUO-FENG'S VISIT TO ROMANIA. I TOLD HIM FROM ALL I COULD
GATHER IT HAD BEEN QUITE SUCCESSFUL AND MUST BE
CONSIDERED MOST IMPORTANT FOR BOTH ROMANIA AND THE PRC.
HOWEVER, THE EMBASSY'S INFORMATION WAS LIMITED ESSENTIALLY
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TO PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE
AN EVENTUAL BREIFING FROM THE GOR IN THE SPIRIT OF OUR
CONTINUING EXCHANGES. I ASKED WHETHER THERE WAS ANY
FOUNDATION TO THE REPORTS THAT THE USE OF THE WORD
"HEGEMONISM" IN HUA'S FIRST TOAST HAD IRRITATED THE SOVIET
UNION AND HAD LEAD TO PRESS COMMUNIQUE ISSUED PRIOR TO
HUA'S DEPARTURE FOR TRIP TO THE PROVINCES IN WHICH THAT

WORD DID NOT SPECIFICALLY APPEAR.

4. ANDREI SAID THAT HUA KUO-FENG VISIT HAD NOT YET BEEN WIDELY DISCUSSED WITHIN ROMANIAN LEADERSHIP COUNCILS. AFTER THE AUGUST 23-24 HOLIDAYS THIS REVIEW WOULD TAKE PLACE AND A DECISION WOULD BE MADE ON HOW TO INFORM GOVERNMENTS. HOWEVER, ANDREI SAID, BOTH AS A COMMUNIST COUNTRY AND AS A STATE WHICH ESPOUSED RIGHTS OF ALL STATES IRRESPECTIVE OF SIZE, LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT, OR STRENGTH OF MILITARY FORCES, ROMANIA REJECTED HEGEMONISM. ROMANIA, WHICH TOOK A STRONG STAND FOR THE EQUALITY OF STATES, WOULD CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE AGAINST HEGEMONISM.

5. IN THE SPIRIT OF ITS OWN POLICIES, ROMANIA "DID NOT CONSIDER IT A BAD THING" THAT JAPAN AND CHINA HAVE PLEDGED NOT TO SEEK HEGEMONY IN THE PACIFIC, SOUTH EAST ASIA, AND OTHER AREAS. THIS WAS SIGNIFICANT DUE TO JAPAN'S PAST HISTORY AND SUCH A COMMITMENT FROM CHINA MUST BE IMPORTANT. ROMANIA WOULD NOT CRITICIZE THOSE WHO TOOK SUCH POSITIONS.

6. SPEAKING GENERALLY, ANDREI CONTINUED, THE CHINESE VISIT TO ROMANIA MUST BE CONSIDERED OF GREAT IMPORTANCE. IT EXTENDED TO CHINESE LEADERSHIP'S DIRECT PERSPECTIVE INTO EUROPE. THIS IS A MAJOR OPENING IN THE PRC'S INTERNATIONAL LIFE WITH UNTOLD SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE COUNTRY'S
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900 MILLION PEOPLE. IT IS THE BEGINNING OF INCREASED PRC DIRECT CONTACTS WITH VARIOUS NATIONAS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL AND SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO STABILITY, PEACE, AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

7. ANDREI THANKED ME FOR THE SECRETARY'S NATIONAL DAY MESSAGE AND SAID HE WOULD REPLY TO IT. HE SAID HE WOULD SEE ME LATER TODAY AT THE OFFICIAL RECEPTION.

8. COMMENT: ANDREI WAS CLEARLY WEARY AND PENSIVE, BUT HE FOLLWED MY PRESENTATION ATTENTIVELY, INTERRUPTING WHEN HE DID NOT CLEARLY UNDERSTAND AND MAKING CERTAIN THAT MITRAN'S TRANSLATION WAS ACCURATE. HE MADE NO COMMENTS ON THE CAMP DAVID MEETING, U.S. RELATIONS WITH THE PRC, OR OUR BILATERAL CONSULATIONS EXCEPT TO SAY THAT HE WOULD RELAY THE MESSAGE TO HIS PRESIDENT.

AGGREY

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